

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 OMB-01 /069 W

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R 240930Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7211

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 3537

1. AUSTRALINA AMBASSADOR WOOLCOTT INFORMED ME MARCH 22 THAT IN HIS VIEW GENERAL SITUATION RELATING TO FUTURE OF PORTUGUESE TIMOR SOMEWHAT IMPROVED. INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT IS CURBING ITS PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN AND IS CONSIDERING REPLACING SOME OF ITS OFFICIALS IN TIMOR AREA. NEVETHELESS, BECAUSE OF CONCERN OVER WHAT IS HAPPENING IN PORTUGAL, INDONESIA NOT LIKELY TO ABANDON THOUGHT OF MORE FORCEFUL ACTION.

2. AMBASSADOR WOOLCOTT HAS NOT RECEIVED FORMAL REPLY TO PRIME MIN STER WHITLAM'S MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT SUHARTO. HE UNDERSTANDS DRAFT IS BEING PREPARED BUT THAT FINAL APPROVAL HAS BEEN DELAYED BY PRESIDENT'S INVOLVEMENT IN COMMANDERS' CALL AND BY SERIES OF HOLIDAYS.

3. WHEN I SAW FOREIGN MINISTER MALIK MARCH 24 I ASKED HIM HIS CURRENT ASSESSMENT OF TIMOR PROBLEM. HE SAID HE HAD JUST BEEN SPEAKING WITH AMBASSADOR WOOLCOTT AND URGING HIM TO DO WHAT HE COULD TO REDUCE AGITATION ON ISSUE IN AUSTRALIA. CURRENT INDONESIAN EFFORTS WERE DIRECTED AT ENCOURAGING PROTUGUESE TO BRING ABOUT GENUINE DISCUSSIONS AMONG POLITICAL GROUPINGS IN PORTUGUESE TIMOR. MALIK MADE POINT THAT TIMOR HAD NOT HAD POLITICAL

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LIFE FOR 300 YEARS. EDUCATIONAL PROCESS, THEREFORE, WAS

ESSENTIAL BEFORE DECISION IS MADE ON TERRITORY'S FUTURE.
PART OF PROCESS SHOULD INVOLVE ACQUAINTING THOSE WHO WISH
INDEPENDENCE WITH PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES OF THIS COURSE.
MALIK SAID ALI MURTOPO HAD SATISFACTORY MEETING WITH
PORTUGUESE REPRESENTATIVES IN LONDON RECENTLY AND HAD
MADE SAME POINTS AT THAT TIME.
NEWSOM

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